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LETTER DATED 12 FEBRUARY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, and in view of the continuing illegal occupation by the Islamic Republic of Iran of the islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa belonging to the United Arab Emirates, and of the Iranian Government's continuing efforts to impose a fait accompli by use of force, through the implementation of illegal measures designed to annex the three islands and place them under Iranian sovereignty, I have the honour to request that the Security Council continue to be seized of item 10 of the list of matters before the Security Council on 4 January 1997, entitled "Letter dated 3 December 1971 from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council", concerning the Iranian occupation of the three islands which belong to the United Arab Emirates. My Government requests that the Security Council remain seized of this matter until such time as the Islamic Republic of Iran ceases its unlawful occupation of those islands and the United Arab Emirates regains sovereignty and effective control over them.

My Government takes this opportunity to reiterate its commitment to stability and security in the Arab Gulf, and to the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the principles of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN AN-NA'AYMI

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